

To: Wise, Robert[Wise.Robert@epa.gov]
Cc: Allen, HarryL[Allen.HarryL@epa.gov]
From: Benson, Craig
Sent: Fri 8/14/2015 9:51:00 PM
Subject: RE: GKI draft AM and/or verbal authority

Very cool. Paul did a nice job of explaining/summarizing because it no doubt will become very important soon enough. I suppose this includes all of R9 activities too or are we still operating under the DPA authority that Rob utilized to dispatch our ERRS for R9 specific issues or all lumped into this?

Thanks Rob. Hope you're staying sane.

Craig Benson, Federal On-Scene Coordinator

Emergency Response Section

U.S. EPA Region 9

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To report oil and chemical spills, call the National Response Center at 800-424-8802



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From: Wise, Robert
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2015 2:21 PM
To: Allen, HarryL; Guria, Peter
Cc: Benson, Craig
Subject: Fwd: GKI draft AM and/or verbal authority

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Williams, Laura" <williams.laura@epa.gov>
Date: August 14, 2015 at 1:40:34 PM MDT
To: "Wise, Robert" <Wise.Robert@epa.gov>, "Calanog, Steve" <Calanog.Steve@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: GKI draft AM and/or verbal authority

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Peronard, Paul" <Peronard.Paul@epa.gov>
Date: August 14, 2015 at 1:14:22 PM MDT
To: "Ostrander, David" <Ostrander.David@epa.gov>, "Cheatham, Reggie" <cheatham.reggie@epa.gov>, "Ruhl, Christopher" <Ruhl.Christopher@epa.gov>
Cc: "Bohan, Suzanne" <bohan.suzanne@epa.gov>, "Sisk, Richard" <Sisk.Richard@epa.gov>, "Ackerman, Joyce" <Ackerman.Joyce@epa.gov>, "Way, Steven" <way.steven@epa.gov>, "Williams, Laura" <williams.laura@epa.gov>
Subject: GKI draft AM and/or verbal authority

Hey All,

I have been working with our Site Attorney, Richard Sisk, on a draft Action Memo for the Gold King Mine Release. Richard and I have come to the conclusion that it does not make much sense for us to try to complete this. We simply don't have enough command of the facts and proposed plans to make something worthy of the effort being undertaken and that will hold up to the scrutiny it will receive. As an alternative we proposed the following:

1. Treat the action as the classic emergency it is...
2. That means proceed with verbal authorization at the appropriate level of authority as allowed in the CERCLA delegations...
3. That appears to be \$6M in the Region with an HQ consult...
4. Just like in a normal (if there is such a thing) emergency the Action Memo will be written ASAP (within 5 days) of the completion of the Emergency Response Phase...
5. Then Steve and/or Hays will work with Richard to put together a more complete and accurate AM...
6. Which will be routed for signature at that time.

This would be in line with how we handle emergencies as a matter of course, just at a bigger scale. It would also allow us time to put together a more solid document.

paul